

COUNTRY Argentina/Yugoslavia

DATE DISTR. 25 August 1948

SUBJECT Ustashi in Argentina

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1. Within the past month the Argentine Ministry of Public Works has refused to consider any more Croat immigrants for employment in the Ministry, although Father Blas Stefanic, a Catholic priest of Croat origin, had previously been authorized to submit the names of 40 more such immigrants for employment by this Ministry.
2. Father Stefanic is reported to have stated that he believed this refusal resulted from a discussion by United States representatives with the Argentine Government on Ustashi activities in Argentina subsequent to reports on the subject to the United States Government prepared by Dr. Vlatko Macek. Argentine authorities have allegedly ceased employing Ustashi in Government departments.
3. Ustasha circles in Argentina are dismayed by the fact that the editors of Hrvatska, bi-weekly Croatian newspaper, have been requested to appear before the Federal Police authorities. The reasons for this summons are as yet unknown.
4. The Ustashi fear that the Argentine Federal Police will investigate the use made by them of assumed names under which the majority of their leaders entered Argentina. The present whereabouts of these leaders is now under investigation. Consequently, the Ustashi have generally become more cautious in their activities.
5. Information has been received by Yugoslav circles in Argentina that Tito's Government has officially requested the Argentine Government to extradite 26 war criminals, among whom are reported to be 18 Croats. Their identities are unknown.

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